2010 GENERAL SESSION SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

House Bill 1 Minimum School Program Budget

The bill provides initial base funding (finalized in SB 2) for the Minimum School Program, which is a 2% reduction in funding and an absorption of enrollment growth resulting in a 1.5% operation budget reduction. The bill appropriates \$1,990,547,523 from the Uniform School Fund for fiscal year 2010-11; \$20,000,000 from the Uniform School Fund Restricted - Interest and Dividends Account for fiscal year 2010-11; appropriates \$22,049,700 to the State Board of Education for fiscal year 2010-11 for school building aid programs for school districts; establishes the estimated minimum basic tax rate at .001513 for fiscal year 2010-11; provides that if monies appropriated to charter schools to replace local property taxes are less than the amount prescribed by a statutory funding formula, monies shall be allocated among charter schools in proportion to each charter school's share of the total enrollment in charter schools; provides that if monies appropriated for charter school administrative costs are insufficient to provide the amount per student prescribed in statute, the appropriation shall be allocated among charter schools in proportion to each charter school's share of the total enrollment in charter schools; provides certain exemptions to the Budgetary Procedures Act for monies appropriated to the State Board of Education for the Minimum School Program or capital outlay programs.

USOE/State Board Action:

School Finance to use budget information for distribution to school districts and charter schools.

District/Charter School Action:

None

<u>Due Date</u>:

April 5, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 2 Fiscal Year 2010 and Fiscal Year 2011 Supplemental Appropriations

The bill supplements or reduces appropriations previously provided for the use and support of state government for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 and beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011. USOE specific changes include: closure of Print Shop ISF; dedicated credit authority for Elementary Math and Science Core Academy registration fees; non-lapsing authority to grant the Carson Smith Special Needs Scholarship; and sets indirect cost pool rates at 10.8% for restricted programs and 13.5% for unrestricted programs.

USOE/State Board Action:

Associate Superintendent Hauber to notify divisions and sections of specific program funding.

None

Due Date:

March, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 3 Appropriations Adjustments

The bill supplements or reduces appropriations previously provided for the use and support of state government for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 and beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011. USOE specific changes include: dedicated credit authority for Elementary Math and Science Core Academy registration fees; funding for additional Board member established in Senate Bill 188; and restores funding for Library Books and Electronic Resources in the Related to Basic Program.

USOE/State Board Action:

Associate Superintendent Hauber to notify divisions and sections of specific program funding.

District/Charter School Action:

None

Due Date:

March, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 4 Current School Year Supplemental Minimum School Program Budget

The bill modifies funding for the Minimum School Program in fiscal year 2009-10 as follows:

- Educator Salary Adjustments increased \$2,116,000
- State-supported Board and Voted leeway programs increased \$13,500,000
- Social Security and Retirement programs reduced \$15,616,000

USOE/State Board Action:

School Finance to use budget information for distribution to school districts and charter schools.

District/Charter School Action:

None

Due Date:

April 5, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 6 State Agency Compensation Appropriations

The bill provides funding for an increase in the cost of health insurance for certain state employees; provides funding for an increase in the cost of retirement for certain state employees; provides funding for an increase in the cost of Unemployment Insurance; and, adjusts funding for changes in required contributions for Other Post Employment Benefits.

USOE/State Board Action:

Associate Superintendent Hauber to notify divisions and sections of specific program funding.

District/Charter School Action:

None

Due Date:

March, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 27 Per Diem and Travel Expenses Modifications

The bill restricts board member expenses to "per diem" and "travel expenses" as determined by the Division of Finance which may require adjustments to school district/charter school rules, and may reduce/eliminate expenses previously reimbursed. The bill also eliminates the responsibility of the state superintendent to certify actual and necessary expenses incurred by State Board of Education members.

USOE/State Board Action:

State Board of Education to review and amend, if necessary, current rules, Board by-laws or practices, to reflect changes in statute.

District/Charter School Action:

None. No changes to local board member compensation.

Due Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 29 School District Division Amendments

The bill alters the starting date of the operation of a new school district by allowing a vote to split a district. It allows for a general election (November) to be held to elect new board members for both districts and then permits the new district to begin operations on July 1 of the second calendar year following the November election of board members.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

Applies only to divided districts.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 42 (S1) School District Employees – Career Status Requirements

The bill allows a school district to extend the provisional status of an employee up to an additional two consecutive years.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

Districts must adopt a written policy that specifies the circumstances under which an employee's provisional status may be extended.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Sydnee Dickson, 801-538-7739, sydnee.dickson@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 81 (S1) School Employee Criminal Background Check

The bill requires school districts, charter schools, and private schools to require periodic background checks of all employees and volunteers who have significant unsupervised access to students. It allows for districts, charters, and private schools to require employees, volunteers, and applicants to pay the costs associated with criminal background checks.

USOE/State Board Action:

USOE will review all rules associated with background checks and assure that they are consistent with this legislation. USOE will develop and disseminate a model Criminal Background Check Policy that may be used by districts, charters, and private schools.

District/Charter School Action:

Districts and charters must assure that their policies and rules are consistent with this legislation. This includes a schedule for periodic background checks of all non-licensed employees and all volunteers who have significant unsupervised access to a student.

Effective Date:

May 11, $201\overline{0}$

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 88 Electronic Cigarette Restrictions

The bill governs the overall use of electronic cigarettes and has application to school districts and charter schools in the same manner as restrictions to alcohol and tobacco use.

USOE/State Board Action:

The bill states that the State Board <u>may</u> adopt rules that prohibit the use, possession, or distribution of an electronic cigarette in public schools. The bill amends 53A-11-908 – Extracurricular Activities – Prohibited Conduct – Reporting of Violations – Limitation of Liability by adding electronic cigarettes to the existing list of prohibited types of conduct. The bill also amends Utah Law (Section 76-10-105) that allows for school officials to issue "tobacco tickets" by adding electronic cigarettes to the list of items for which a person younger than 18 may be cited for possession.

District/Charter School Action:

The bill states that local boards of education and charter school governing boards <u>shall</u> adopt rules that prohibit the illicit use, possession, or distribution of an electronic cigarette in public schools.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 103 School Speed Zones

The bill expands the authority of a local highway authority to establish a reduced speed zone at a signalized intersection for a highway under its jurisdiction.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

None

Effective Date:

Immediate

Contact:

Larry Newton, 801-538-7668 or lawrence.newton@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 117 Public Education Capital Outlay Act

The bill modifies the Capital Outlay Foundation Program by: eliminating base funding except for school districts with fewer than 1,000 pupils in average daily membership; setting the base tax effort rate at the average of the highest school district's capital and debt service levies and the statewide average of school districts' capital and debt service levies; and directs the State Board of Education to determine a school district's allocation of funds under the program using data from the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year the school district receives the allocation; modifies the fiscal year of the data that is used to determine a school district's allocation of funds under the Enrollment Growth Program.

USOE/State Board Action:

School Finance to use budget information for distribution to school districts and charter schools. Send funds to school districts in December 2010 or January 2011 bank transfer.

District/Charter School Action:

Districts will need to review long-term capital planning to adjust for changes in revenue estimates.

Effective Date:

July 1, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 149 School Finance Amendments

The bill amends the charter school enrollment cap/growth (to be coordinated with SB 188). The bill also allows for districts and charters receiving less than \$10,000 in any of the following qualifying program to combine funds in any of the qualifying programs. Eligible programs for transfer or consolidation of funds include:

- At risk flow-through (53A-17a-121)
- Homeless and disadvantaged minorities (53A-17a-121)
- Gifted and talented (53A-17a-129)
- Advanced placement (53A-15-101) and
- Concurrent enrollment (53A-15-101)

USOE/State Board Action:

Although not required in the legislation, USOE must be notified by school districts/charter schools if these transfers occur. USOE will provide a notification form/process.

District/Charter School Action:

Notify USOE if allowable transfers occur.

Effective Date:

July 1, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 166 (S1) Reductions to Education Mandates

The bill eliminates the following "education mandates" for the identified time period(s):

- Criterion-Referenced tests in grade 2 no time limit (53A-1-603)
- Any student enrolled in tenth grade during the 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, or 2011-2012 school years is exempt from UBSCT requirements (2010 graduates are not included in this exempt group). Students are exempt from taking and schools are exempt from administering. (53A-1-611)
- Activity Disclosure Statements until 2012-2013 school year (53A-3-420)
- School Performance Reports (U-PASS Accountability System) until 2012-2013 school year (53A-3-602.5)
- Disposal of textbooks requirements until 2012-2013 school year (53A-12-207)
- Adoption information to students until 2012-2013 school year (53A-13-107)
- Certain requirements associated with the purchase and alignment of primary instructional materials until 2012-2013 school year (53A-14-107)
- Eliminates restrictions of local transportation levy no time limit (53A-17a-127-6) Eligibility for state-supported transportation did not change.

USOE/State Board Action:

- Exempt from U-PASS Accountability System and reports until 2012-2013 (53A-3-602.5-1)
- Exempt from reporting certain data until 2012-2013 school year (53A-3-602.5-3)
- Exempt from providing information in certain sections of Superintendent's Annual Report until 2012-2013 school year (53A-3-602.5-5)
- On or before December 31, 2010, the State Board of Education shall review mandates or requirements provided for in Board rule to determine whether certain mandates or requirements could be waived to remove funding pressure on public schools on a temporary basis.
- Review Board Rules (see R277-473, R277-700, R277-705) for changes to UBSCT standards and criteria.

- Before the 2010 October Education Interim Committee meeting, the State Board shall prepare and present a pilot for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years to:
 - Replace UBSCT with computer adaptive testing of basic skills, and administer the ACT to secondary students.
 - o Implement the pilot using funds saved by not administering the UBSCT.

See list above

Effective Date:

varies

Contact:

Martell Menlove, 801-538-7762 or martell.menlove@schools.utah.gov Murrell Martin (Transportation Issues), 801-538-7666 or murrell.martin@schools.utah.gov Judy Park (Testing Issues), 801-538-7550 or judy.park@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 205 Impact Fee Amendments

The bill requires that an impact fee enactment allow, in certain circumstances, a developer to receive a credit against or proportionate reimbursement of an impact fee, including a school district or charter school; amends requirements for a capital facilities plan; amends provisions relating to an impact fee enactment; and amends provisions relating to impact fees; restricts political subdivisions from delaying construction of a school district or charter school because of a dispute over impact fees; may not impose an impact fee when the new school creates no greater demand or need for public facilities than the school or school facilities, including any portable or modular classrooms that are on the site of the replaced school at the time that the new school is proposed. Also, a political subdivision may not require a school district or charter school to participate in the cost of any roadway or sidewalk. If a school district or charter school agrees to build a roadway or sidewalk, it shall be included in the plan.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

None

Due Date:

None

Contact:

Jenefer Youngfield, 801-538-7669 or jenefer.youngfield@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 246 Retirement Benefits for Charter School Employees

The bill provides that a URS member, a participating employer, or a member and a participating employer jointly may purchase service credits equal to the period of time the member was employed in a charter school that did not participate in URS. It requires the member to forfeit any retirement benefit acquired during the period of employment to be purchased.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

None

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Marlies Burns, 801-538-7817 or marlies.burns@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 282 Local Government Amendments

The bill amends slightly the definition of "educational facility"to include "or similar use" in the list of facility exclusions (which includes basically all support facilities). Added language limits municipalities and counties from imposing regulations for land use on support structures owned or operated by a school district or charter school that is not imposed on a similar use or structure in the zone in which the land use or structure is approved; or use the tax exempt status as criteria for prohibiting or regulating the land use or location of the structure.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

None

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Larry Newton, 801-538-7668 or lawrence.newton@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 295 (S2) Expanded Uses of School District Property Tax Revenue

Allows for local school boards to use capital outlay levy funds for general purposes for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2102 fiscal (school) years.

USOE/State Board Action:

Collect all transfer data from each district.

- For FY 11 and FY 12 local boards may use capital outlay funds for general purposes.
- Capital funds committed to debt services or bond payments are not eligible.
- Public must be notified (1) prior to the budget hearing and (2) at the budget hearing.
- Capital funds may not be used for function codes 2300-General District Administration or 2500-Central Services.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or <u>todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov</u> Larry Newton, 801-538-7668 or <u>larry.newton@schools.utah.gov</u>

House Bill 321 (S1) Bond Election Notification Revisions

The bill increases the responsibility school districts will have in notifying the public prior to a bond election (Utah Code 11-14-202). The bill requires the district to prepare and mail to each household with a registered voter, a voter information packet.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

The bill requires local political subdivisions (local school boards) to do the following additional items in connection with a bond election:

- If no local newspaper exists posting of bond election in at least five public places.
- Prepare and mail voter information pamphlet.
 - o Mailed to each household containing a registered voter
 - o Pamphlet to contain:
 - Date and place of election
 - Hours polls will be open
 - Title and text of ballot proposition
 - Explanation of property tax impact
 - Expected debt service on bonds to be issued
 - Detailed description of any outstanding GO bonds
 - Other funds available to pay debt service
 - Timing of expenditures of bond proceeds
 - Property values
 - Additional information to explain the property tax impact

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Larry Newton, 801-538-7668 or lawrence.newton@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 324 (S1) Public Lands Litigation

The bill allows for \$1,000,000 to be appropriated for fiscal years 2010-2011, 2011-2012, and 2012-2013 to the Constitutional Defense Restricted Account. Funds will come from the Land Exchange Distribution Account (LEDA). Funds will be used to file an eminent domain action or a quiet title action on property possessed by the federal government.

USOE/State Board Action:

None – USOE will lose \$16,800 annually from LEDA.

District/Charter School Action:

None – This does not impact School LAND Trust funds.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 327 Autism Awareness Support Special Group License Plate

The bill authorizes an Autism Awareness license plate and directs the state superintendent to distribute the funds generated.

USOE/State Board Action:

Directs the state superintendent to distribute the funds in the account to one or more charitable organizations. Provides that the State Board of Education **may** make rules providing procedures for an organization to apply to the superintendent to receive funds.

Effective Date:

October 1, 2010

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 355 Legal Guardianship Amendments

The bill impacts the relationship between districts and the District Court in the granting of guardianship. The court may deny the appointment of a guardian if the school district proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the primary purpose for the guardianship is to avoid the payment of nonresident tuition. If the district files an objection, and the court does not find in favor of the district, the court <u>may</u> award the petitioner attorney fees and costs if the court finds that the school district's arguments lack a reasonable basis in the law.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

Be aware. Seek legal council if a school district chooses to question court- appointed guardianship. (Standard is expressly stated in the Law, but is the standard currently used by the courts).

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 386 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

The bill provides certain assurances for children of active military personnel as they transfer into and out of local districts, participate in programs and activities, and graduate (53A-1-1001). This bill repeals 53A-11-1401, 53A-11-1402, 53A-11-1403, and 53A-11-1404 (codified in 2009).

USOE/State Board Action:

The State Superintendent is a member of the State Council on Military Children. Other members are appointed by the Governor.

District/Charter School Action:

One district superintendent with a high concentration of military children (appointed by the Governor) becomes a member of the State Council on Military Children. Districts should be aware of the following:

- Being five years of age on September 2nd of the year admission is sought is not applicable to eligible military children.
- Complete immunization records are not required at the time of admission for eligible military children. Immunizations are required within 30 days.
- Requests for student records 10 days to process requests for records Enrollment must be allowed with unofficial or "hand-carried" records.
- Districts must facilitate graduation for eligible military children.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

House Bill 433 Foreign Exchange Student Amendments

The bill amends current foreign exchange student legislation by requiring a school to accept a foreign exchange student if:

- The student is sponsored by an agency approved by the State Board;
- The student attends the same school during the same time period that a student from that school is:

- Sponsored by the same agency;
- o Enrolled in a school in a foreign country; and
- Is enrolled in the school for one year or less.

Where the above conditions are not met, schools are not required to accept foreign exchange students if the school is at or above capacity.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

Districts/charters should review policies and practices to ensure that they accept foreign exchange students from Board-approved agencies if a district has student(s) attending school in a foreign country under supervision of the same agency.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Gregg Roberts, 801-538-7743 or gregg.roberts@schools.utah.gov

House Joint Resolution 3 Joint Resolution on Teacher Performance Pay

The joint resolution provides "guiding principles" that may be used in any future efforts to develop performance pay plans or differentiated pay plans for public school teachers.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

None

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Martell Menlove, 801-538-7762 or martell.menlove@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 1 State Agency and Higher Education Base Budget

The bill appropriates funds for the support and operation of state government for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011 with a 2% base budget reduction.

USOE/State Board Action:

Associate Superintendent Hauber to notify divisions and sections of specific program funding.

None

Due Date:

March, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 2 Minimum School Program and Public Education Budget Amendments

The bill establishes the value of the weighted pupil unit at \$2,577 for fiscal year 2010-11; replaces \$264,088,600 of one-time funding with ongoing Education funds to avoid the "funding cliff" in fiscal year 2010-11; 3prescribes the powers and duties of the State Board of Education to adjust Minimum School Program allocations; provides that monies appropriated to the State Board of Education are non-lapsing; modifies the state guarantee under the voted leeway and board-authorized leeway programs; provides that the state guarantee under the voted leeway and board-authorized leeway programs shall apply to tax rates approved by a certain date; provides that if monies appropriated to charter schools to replace local property taxes are less than the amount prescribed by a statutory funding formula, monies shall be allocated among charter schools in proportion to each charter school's share of the total enrollment in charter schools; provides that if monies appropriated for charter school administrative costs are insufficient to provide the amount per student prescribed in statute, the appropriation shall be allocated among charter schools in proportion to each charter school's share of the total enrollment in charter schools; provides that if the Legislature reduces funding to public schools due to an Education Fund budget deficit: the reduction shall be allocated in proportion to each school district's or charter school's share of Minimum School Program funds; and a school district or charter school may determine which programs, with certain exceptions, are affected by the reduction.

USOE/State Board Action:

State Board of Education will develop a plan to create a website where best practices and studies of school districts and charter schools may be posted for the purpose of facilitating and encouraging innovation, cost-savings, and productivity. The State Board of Education will make a report on the plan to the Education Interim Committee no later than the Committee's October meeting. School Finance to use budget information for distribution to school districts and charter schools.

District/Charter School Action:

Classroom Supplies and Materials appropriation is reduced from \$10 million to \$5 million; the amount individual teachers receive has also been reduced.

Due Date:

April 5, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 3 Current Fiscal Year Supplemental Appropriations

The bill supplements or reduces appropriations previously provided for the use and operation of state government for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 with a 3% base budget reduction.

USOE/State Board Action:

Associate Superintendent Hauber to notify divisions and sections of specific program funding.

District/Charter School Action:

None

Due Date:

March, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 16 Utah Performance Assessment System For Students (U-PASS) Amendments

The bill makes several modifications to U-PASS.

- Allows for the assessment of basic skills using online adaptive tests.
- Allows the State Board to exempt a district or charter from U-PASS assessment requirements if the district/school administers the pilot assessments.
- Eliminates the cap on districts and charters participating in pilot assessments.
- Extends pilot systems through July 1, 2015.
- Eliminates the requirement for statewide norm referenced tests in grades 3, 5, and 8.

USOE/State Board Action:

USOE will review Rules concerning standardized assessments and make necessary amendments.

District/Charter School Action:

Districts and charters have additional options available for participating in the assessment pilot program.

Effective Date:

May 11, $201\overline{0}$

Contact:

Judy Park, 801-538-7550 or judy.park@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 43 (S3) Post-Retirement Employment Amendments

The bill modifies the provisions related to the retiree who returns to work for a participating URS employer. The bill does not impact the status of currently employed individuals.

Retirees hired on June 30, 2010, or earlier:

- Cannot earn additional service credit if reemployed by a different agency or the same agency after six months from the retirement date; receive salary and pension benefits.
- As of July 1, 2010, will no longer mandatorily receive the 14.2% into a 401(K) but may receive approximately 12% if the employer chooses to offer it.
- If rehired by the same agency within six months, the pension is canceled and the employee returns to earning additional service credit.

Retirees rehired on July 1, 2010, or after:

- If rehired by a URS employer within one year, retirement is canceled and employee is returned to active service.
 - The one year break in service is mandatory regardless of the number of hours worked or benefit status.
 - If rehired within one year into a position with no benefits, the pension is still cancelled and employee will not accrue additional service credits.
- If rehired one year or longer after retirement, retiree has two choices:
 - o Canceling the pension, collecting a salary, and earning additional service credits, or
 - Collecting both a salary and a pension, but not earning additional service credits and not receiving any defined contribution benefits.
- Agencies will be required to pay, directly to URS, the "Amortization Rate" on any rehired retirees that choose to continue receiving their pension benefit.
- Retirees who choose to cancel their pension benefit and earn service credit instead must remain employed for two or more years in order to receive a pension based upon their new period of employment.
 - If retiree does not remain employed for two years, the original benefit will be reinstated; an additional benefit will be calculated on the new period of employment and added to the original benefit.

USOE/State Board Action:

Review hiring policies and practices to ensure compliance with this legislation.

District/Charter School Action:

Districts should review their policies and practices - including hiring practices and policies for contractors, hourly employees and part-time employees - to ensure compliance with the law.

Effective Date

July 1, 2010

Contact:

Dave Rodemack, 801-538-7652 or david.rodemack@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 55 Authorization of Charter Schools by Higher Education Institutions

The bill allows institutions of higher education (universities, colleges, and college campuses within UCAT) to function as chartering entities. As such, these institutions may authorize an application for a charter school and submit such application to the State Board of Education for final approval.

USOE/State Board Action:

Charters authorized by higher education institutions must provide a copy of the application to the State Charter School Board. The State Charter Board may offer suggestions and the chartering entity shall give due considerations to the suggestions. The State Board will assure that rules governing charter schools are consistent with this legislation and provide a timeline for the opening of a charter school following the application by a board of trustees of a higher education institution.

District/Charter School Action:

Charters authorized by higher education institutions must provide a copy of the application to the local school board of the district in which the charter will be located. The local school board may offer suggestions, and the chartering entity shall give due considerations to the suggestions.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Martell Menlove, 801-538-7762 or <u>martell.menlove@schools.utah.gov</u> Marlies Burns, 801-538-7817 or <u>marlies.burns@schools.utah.gov</u>

Senate Bill 56 School Reporting Amendments

The bill modifies some provisions of the state superintendent's annual report by defining how average class size and pupil-teacher ratios will be calculated. This bill eliminates the pupil-adult ratio calculation.

USOE/State Board Action:

USOE will assure that rules and procedures are consistent with this legislation.

District/Charter School Action:

Districts and charters will be required to provide accurate and timely information to facilitate mandated calculations of average class size, pupil-teacher ratios, and pupil-adult ratios.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Judy Park, 801-538-7550 or judy.park@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 57 Local School Board Budget Procedures

The bill modifies notice requirements by school districts when adopting a district budget.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

Prior to the adoption of a budget, a local school board shall:

- Hold a public hearing
 - At least ten days prior to the public hearing, the local school board shall:
 - Publish notice in newspapers (45-1-101);
 - Publish notice electronically (45-1-101);
 - File a copy of the budget with the business administrator for public inspection; and
 - Post the proposed budget on the school district's internet website.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 59 At-Risk Student Provisions

The bill creates a new section of the Utah Code, 53A-15-603 – Gang Prevention and Intervention Policies, and requires school districts and charter schools to enact certain gang prevention and intervention policies.

USOE/State Board Action:

The State Board of Education shall adopt rules that require a local school board or governing board of a charter to enact gang prevention and intervention policies.

District/Charter School Action:

State Board rules may include the following provisions to be enacted by districts and charters:

- Reporting to school administrators and law enforcement;
- Exclusion from activities for students participating in gang activities;
- Reporting, parental notification, and restitution for gang-related graffiti;
- Notification to parents/guardians of serious gang-related activity to include:
 - o Informing parents but removing personally identifiable information;
 - o Emphasizing the school's concern for safety; and,
 - o Outlining action taken at the school
- Training for school personnel to include recognizing early warning signs of youth in trouble:
- Prohibition of the following behavior:
 - Advocating or promoting gang-related activities
 - o Marking school property, books, or school work with gang names, slogans, or signs;
 - Conducting gang initiations;
 - o Threatening another person in connection with any gang activity;
 - o Aiding or abetting an activity described above;
 - Displaying or wearing common gang apparel;
 - o Communicating in any method, including verbal and nonverbal means, designed to convey gang membership or affiliation;

• Publicizing the rules and policies to students, parents, guardians, and faculty through websites, handbooks, letters, or other means of communication.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Verne Larsen, 801-538-7713 or verne.larsen@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 63 (S3) New Public Employees Tier II Contribution Retirement System

- Tier I employees can never switch to Tier II.
- No new benefits or increases to benefits can occur until all plans are funded at 100%.
- Annual reporting to Legislature on the status of URS.
- Tier I retirement benefits are not changed and will continue for all employees hired prior to July 1, 2011.
- Tier II Retirement Benefits all employees hired on July 1, 2011 or later. Irrevocable choice between Tier II Hybrid Contributory Retirement Plan and Tier II Defined Contribution Retirement Plan
 - o Tier II Hybrid Contributory Retirement Plan
 - 35 years for full retirement
 - 1.5% of FAS for each year of service
 - FAS = monthly average of highest five years
 - Up to 2.5% COLA
 - 4 year vesting
 - Employer pays no more than 10% of salary into plan
 - If rate is less than 10% remainder is contributed to 401(K)
 - If rate is more than 10% employee pays difference
 - Employer cannot pay employee's portion
 - Employee contributions have immediate vesting
 - Employer funds contributed to 401(K)
 - 4 year vesting
 - Employee investment decisions upon vesting
 - Reinstated if terminates and reemploys within 10 years
 - No loans
 - Employee can elect to make additional contributions
 - Employer pays the "Amortization rate" to URS to fund liability from Tier I
 - Includes a death and disability benefit
 - This is the default plan if employee fails to make a choice
 - Employees in Hybrid Plan can purchase up to 5 years of service
 - Tier II Defined Contribution Retirement Plan
 - Employer contributes 10% of salary into a 401(K) plan
 - Four year vesting
 - Employee makes investment decisions once vested
 - Reinstated if employee terminates and reemploys within 10 years
 - No loans

- Employee can elect to make additional contributions
- Employer pays the "Amortization rate" to URS to fund liability from Tier I

USOE/State Board Action:

Review hiring policies and practices to ensure compliance with this legislation.

District/Charter School Action:

Districts should review their policies and practices - including hiring practices and policies for contractors, hourly employees and part-time employees - to ensure compliance with the law.

Effective Date:

July 1, 2010

Contact:

Dave Rodemack, 801-538-7652 or david.rodemack@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 66 Public School Extracurricular Activities For Home School and Private School Students

The bill establishes a new section of the Utah Code, 53A-11-102.6, stating how home school and private school students become and remain eligible for high school extracurricular activities. It also outlines a process whereby a person, through the school principal, may question the eligibility of a home school or private school student.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

High schools that offer extracurricular activities (UHSAA) should be aware of the provisions of this legislation. Major issues addressed include:

- A private school student may only participate in activities not offered at the student's private school.
- A private school student or home school student may only participate in activities at (1) the school within the attendance boundaries of the student's custodial parent or legal guardian or (2) the school from which the student withdrew to a attend a private or home school.
- A private or home school student is eligible to participate based on eligibility standards consistent with fully enrolled public school students.
- A private or home school student shall pay all fees associated with participation.
- Eligibility based on attendance does not apply to home school students.
- Academic eligibility is established by a parent, teacher, or organization submitting an affidavit (signed, notarized statement) to the principal indicating the student meets academic eligibility requirements.
- An eligibility affidavit is good for the activity season for which it was submitted.

- If a home school student loses academic eligibility, student remains ineligible until the person who submitted the original affidavit provides written notice to the school principal that the student has reestablished academic eligibility.
- A person who has probable cause to believe a home school student does not meet academic eligibility may submit to the school principal an affidavit asserting such and provide information as to why the home school student does not meet academic eligibility.
 - If the school principal determines that the statement constitutes probable case to believe the student is not academically eligible, the principal shall request a panel to verify the student's academic eligibility.
 - Sections 10, 11, 12, and 13 describe how the panel functions.
- A public school student who becomes academically ineligible shall remain ineligible until the student:
 - o Demonstrates eligibility by means of test or a portfolio of the student's work (cannot occur during the activity for which the student was declared ineligible).
 - o Returns to public school and reestablishes eligibility; or
 - Enrolls in a private school and establishes eligibility.
- A public school student who has been declared behaviorally ineligible remains ineligible consistent with other public school students even if the student withdraws and enrolls in a private school or a home school.
- When selection to participate is made on a competitive basis, eligible private and home school students are eligible to try out for and participate on the same basis as public school students.
- Academic eligibility for a student who leaves a public school mid-semester, or during an activity season, shall be based on the student meeting public school academic eligibility standards at the time of exiting the public school.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 119 (S3) Special Election Modifications

The bill allows a local school board to call a special election (fourth Tuesday in June or first Tuesday following the first Monday in November) if approved by a two-thirds majority of the board and is for (1) an election for a bond or debt issue or (2) an election for a voted leeway or levy program.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

None

Effective Date:

July 1, 2010

Contact:

Larry Newton, 801-538-7668 or lawrence.newton@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 132 Higher Education Scholarship Amendments

The bill makes adjustments to the New Century and Regents' Scholarships. Changes include:

New Century Scholarship

- Beginning 2011:
 - o Associates degree must be earned no later than date of high school graduation
 - o Graduation from accredited high school with 3.5 cumulative GPA
 - If no high school diploma, student must have completed requirements of an Associates degree with 3.0 GPA and composite ACT of 26 or higher
 - No criminal record, except minor traffic offenses
 - Must enroll by fall following graduation and remain full-time enrolled (local board may approve a deferral)

Regents' Scholarship

- Cumulative 3.0 GPA no "C" grade on required course
- Must submit ATC scores with application

USOE/State Board Action:

Review Board Rules to ensure compliance with new law.

District/Charter School Action:

Review district charter policies, practices and student instruction materials to ensure compliance with law. Provide appropriate, accurate information and training to school counselors and advisors.

Effective Date:

Requirements change for 2011 graduates.

Contact:

Dawn Stevenson, 801-538-7851 or dawn.stevenson@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 144 (S1) Vision Screen Amendments

The bill allows for licensed health care providers who provide vision care to private patients to participate in free vision screening for students over 8 years old. Private providers may not promote their business as part of the screenings. Vision screening for students 3 ½ to 7 years old remains the responsibility of the Division of Services for the Blind or Visually Impaired or the USOE.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

Districts/charters shall review policies and practices regarding student vision screening to ensure compliance with the law. School or school districts shall provide a form for health care professionals who screen older children. School district may provide guidelines for vision screening volunteers from the private sector and may provide penalties for private sector vision screening volunteers who promote private services. Districts may provide information to parents from private sector vision screening volunteers.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Carol Lear, 801-538-7835 or carol.lear@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 150 (S1) Reading Requirements for Student Advancement

The bill creates section 53A-1-606.6 of the Utah Code. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to imply that a student may or may not be advanced to the next grade level based on the student's reading ability.

USOE/State Board Action:

The State Board shall make rules defining expected reading levels for first, second, and third grades.

The State Board shall prepare a report for the November Education Interim Committee that includes:

- The number of first, second, and third grade level students reading below grade level during the prior school year, and
- The number of students who received reading intervention during the prior school year.

District/Charter School Action:

School districts and charter schools shall:

- Notify a parent or guardian of a first, second, or third grade student, prior to the midpoint of the school year, that the student is reading below grade level, as determined by multiple assessments.
- Provide information to a parent or guardian of a student reading below grade level regarding remediation interventions available through the school district or charter school.
- Provide focused reading remediation through appropriate interventions that may include tutoring, before and after school programs, or summer assistance.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Judy Park, 801-538-7550 or <u>judy.park@schools.utah.gov</u> Brenda Hales, 801-538-7515 or <u>brenda.hales@schools.utah.gov</u>

Senate Bill 175 (S5) School District Capital Equalization Amendments

The bill allows for expenditure of capital outlay funds for general purposes in the same manner as HB 295 (S2).

The bill also further clarifies distribution of the .0006 levy in counties of the first class and imposes additional report requirements on "receiving school districts". The bill also sunsets funding provisions of the county of the capital outlay equalization program at the end of 2016.

USOE/State Board Action

None

District/Charter School Action:

District(s) in counties of the first class receiving more of the .00060 levy distribution than is generated in their district from the .0006 levy (receiving school district) shall report before November of each year to the Education Interim Committee. The report shall include (1) how the district spent the capital outlay increment monies during the prior year and (2) the school district's plan to increase capacity of existing school buildings.

Effective Date:

Retrospective operation for taxable year beginning January 1, 2010.

Contact:

Todd Hauber, 801-538-7514 or todd.hauber@schools.utah.gov

Senate Bill 188 Charter School Amendments

The bill does five different things.

- Places a Charter School Board member as a non-voting member of the State Board of Education.
- Establishes charter school enrollment, per legislative funding.
- Clarifies the responsibilities of charters and districts as students move between them (see District/Charter School Action).
- Clarifies how a charter school board must handle a potential conflict of interest if a board member has financial interest in pending contract or transaction.
- Clarifies membership of the Charter School Building Subaccount Committee.

USOE/State Board Action:

- Write Board Rule setting capacity standards for student transfer between traditional schools and charter schools.
- Facilitate membership of Charter Board Member on State Board.
- Help clarify, possibly by rule, the transfer of students between charter school and district schools - including timelines.
- Facilitate appropriate membership on Charter School Building Subaccount Committee.

Ensure accurate implementation of legislation on the transferring of students between charter schools and district schools.

Effective Date:

May 11, 2010 – except amendments to Section 53A-1a-518 (Regulated Transactions and Relationships) which has an effective date of July 1, 2011.

Contact:

Martell Menlove, 801-538-7762 or <u>martell.menlove@schools.utah.gov</u> Marlies Burns, 801-538-7817 or <u>marlies.burns@schools.utah.gov</u>

Senate Bill 197 (S1) Community Development and Renewal Agency Amendments

Amends a public entity's authority to assist with a project to plan or plat; amends notice requirements to require posting on the Utah Public Notice Website; authorizes an agency to loan tax increment from one project area fund to another project area fund if the agency's board approves and the legislative body of each community that created the project approves and the projections for the future tax increment of the borrowing project area are sufficient to repay the loan amount prior to when the tax increment are intended for use under the loaning project's plan; amends provisions related to funds allocated for housing to require allocation each year in which the agency receives sufficient tax increment to make a housing allocation required by the project area budget; requires a licensed attorney to certify a project area budget; prohibits a person from contesting a project area budget or an amendment to a project area budget after the required time for contestation expires; permits a successor taxing entity to enforce a resolution or interlocal agreement.

USOE/State Board Action:

None

District/Charter School Action:

None

Due Date:

May 11, 2010

Contact:

Larry Newton, 801-538-7668 or larry.newton@schools.utah.gov Cathy Dudley, 801-538-7667 or cathy.dudley@schools.utah.gov

2010 GENERAL SESSION LIST OF EDUCATION BILLS NOT PASSED

1.	HB 71 various sub	Ray	Nicotine Products Restrictions
2.	HB 72 (S1)	Wiley	Utah School Seismic Hazard Inventory
3.	HB 83 (S1)	Wallis	Public Employees' Retirement - Spousal Election
4.	HB 90	King	Income Tax Amendments
5.	HB 99	Black	Background Checks for School Sports Officials
6.	HB 105	Black	Public School Employee Auditory Protection Requirements
7.	HB 127 (S1)	Hemingway	Reproductive Health Education Amendments
8.	HB 129	Newbold	Amendments to Education Financing
9.	HB 137	Harper	Public School Funding
10.	HB 194	Last	Grants for Math Teacher Training
11.	HB 217	Wimmer	Income Tax Revisions
12.	HB 268	Grover	Public School Innovations
13.	HB 292	Bird	Equalization of Funding for Divided School Districts
14.	HB 347	Powell	Guardianship Amendments
15.	HB 350	Sandstrom	Club Teams in Public Schools
16.	HB 354	Watkins	Finance Amendments for Financially Distressed School Districts
17.	HB 367	Black	Guardianship Residency Requirements
18.	HB 393	Bird	Advertisements on School Buses
19.	HB 454	Fisher, Janice	Maternity Leave for School Employees
20.	HB 463	Hutchings	Divided School District Property Tax Amendments
21.	HJR 20	Wheatley	Green Schools Joint Resolution

22.	HJR 24	Oda	Joint Resolution on Equal Treatment by Government
23.	HJR 25	Powell	Joint Resolution Regarding School Fees and Supplies
24.	SB 42	Liljenquist	Retirement Eligibility Modifications
25.	SB 49 various sub	Jones	Vending Machines in Public Schools
26.	SB 54	Urquhart	Health Education Amendments
27.	SB 77 (S1)	Dayton	School District Leave Policies
28.	SB 87	Davis	School Property Tax Equalization Revisions
29.	SB 92 (S1)	Bramble	Amendments to Revenue and Taxation Title
30.	SB 94	Liljenquist	Supplemental Benefit Amendments for Noncontributory Public Employees (1.5%)
31.	SB 147	Dayton	Education Related Parent Organizations
32.	SB 276	Jones	Promoting Healthy Lifestyles in Public Schools

S.J.R. 15 MASTER STUDY RESOLUTION 2010 GENERAL SESSION

Public Education Related Items

- 1. School Fee and Supplies to study amendments to the Utah Constitution regarding school fees and supplies (H.J.R. 25).
- 2. 12th Grade to study accelerated high school graduation and increasing the rigor of high school graduation requirements.
- 3. Career Status Requirements to study the career status requirements of school district employees.
- 4. District Funding to study funding for small school districts.
- 5. Early Graduation to study whether to provide incentives for early graduation.
- 6. Education Levies to study the consolidation of education levies.
- 7. Environmental Design Standards for Schools to study whether the Utah Board of Education should build schools to the energy and environmental design rating system (LEED) or comparable system.
- 8. Extended Year Schedules to study the feasibility of extending school calendars and schedules to increase the enrollment capacity of school buildings.
- 9. Fundamental Computing Concepts Credit to study the teaching of higher level technology education classes like fundamental computing concepts so that the .5 credit required in computer technology curriculum does not include keyboarding, but is strictly in computing concepts.
- 10. Gun Safety Education to study whether to provide education on gun safety to Utah's children.
- 11. Impact of Decreased Education Funding to study and determine whether decreases in per pupil spending in Utah schools negatively affects Utah students' test scores and hampers their competitiveness for future employment and education.
- 12. Impact of Tax Cuts on Education Funding to study and determine whether income and property tax cuts and diversions are harming Utah's higher and public education funding system.
- 13. Labor Law Related to Schools to study why state school districts are exempt from national and state labor laws.
- 14. Math Education to study strengthening the math curriculum and math teacher preparation.

- 15. Online Education Access to study how to provide better access to online education courses for K-12 students.
- 16. Payment for Online Courses to study whether to require school districts to pay for online courses from qualified providers.
- 17. Public School Innovations to study how to provide greater flexibility to public schools to meet the educational needs of students, including an innovation plan (H.B. 268).
- 18. Renewable Energy Class to study the teaching of a class in math/science or career technology education on how renewable energy generates electricity to prepare students for potential future employment in this area.
- 19. Replacing Criterion Reference Tests (CRT) to study whether to replace Criterion Reference Tests with ACT tests, starting with pre-ACT in eighth grade.
- 20. School District Allocation of IT Budget to study the disparity between maintenance and salary versus hardware and software; the disparity, within the hardware budget, between administrative overhead and resources actually dedicated to instruction; and the disparity between pay and benefits between school district employment and industry/market standards.
- 21. School Nutrition and Activity to study physical activity and nutrition in schools.
- 22. School Property Tax Equalization to study whether to repeal the requirement to impose and distribute certain school capital outlay property tax revenues in school districts within a first class county or divided school district (S.B. 87).
- 23. School Seismic Hazard Inventory to study whether to require a school district or charter school to conduct a seismic evaluation of each facility used by the district or a charter school and to create a Public School Seismic Safety Committee (S.B. 72).
- 24. Student Loans for Teachers to study student loan payment assistance for veteran teachers, including tax incentives or assistance through the education system.
- 25. Teacher Immunity to study whether to grant teachers partial immunity for actions at school.
- 26. Teacher Salary Levels to study whether to make full-time classroom teachers the highest paid employees of a school district.
- 27. Election Administration by County Clerks to study whether to require that county clerks administer all elections including state, county, municipality, school district, local district, and special district elections to reduce costs and improve election efficiency, expertise, uniformity, integrity, and voter convenience.
- 28. Email Communications to study issues related to email communications and the Open and Public Meetings Act (H.B. 415).

- 29. Affirmative Action to study the status of the affirmative action effort in Utah and a potential constitutional amendment related to H.J.R. 24.
- 30. Grandparent Rights to study the rights of grandparents when they have custody of children.
- 31. Guardianship Appointments to study the creation of a method within the courts for the appointment of a guardian or conservator for a minor or an incapacitated adult and the elimination of a local school board's ability to designate guardians for students within their district (H.B. 347).
- 32. Gun Free Zones to study Utah's gun free zones.
- 33. Property Tax Exemption to study whether to change certain qualifications for the residential property tax exemption.
- 34. Property Tax Valuation to study whether to change the valuation of certain property under the Property Tax Act (H.B. 322).
- 35. Special Group License Plate Regulation to study the regulation of special group license plates by State Tax Commission rule instead of legislative action, with sunset language for those which fail to meet goals.
- 36. Tax Increases Not Approved by Voters to study whether to allow tax increases not approved by voters to be subject to referendum and initiative procedures.
- 37. Tax Notice Modifications to study whether tax notices should be modified to provide more information, including the percentage of increase or decrease, the date and type of approval, and the time and location of public hearings.
- 38. Retirement Issues Related to Part-Time Employees to study the effect of part-time employees who work full time the last few years of their careers.
- 39. Vacation Leave Policies to study and conduct an analysis of sick and vacation leave policies versus paid time off.
- 40. Public Meeting Agendas to study whether to require a "tentative agenda" at least 72 hours prior to a public meeting, and leaving in place the current 24-hour notice requirement for a final agenda.